

MODESTO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# Progress

VOL. 40 | ISSUE 4 | APRIL 2019



▶ **WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP**

▶ **PINOT'S PALETTE**

▶ **RIDE FOR MOM**



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## MISSION STATEMENT

The Modesto Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to serving the greater Modesto Area, regional businesses and community prosperity through advocacy, collaboration, access to leaders, economic development, connectivity and business education.

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**DISCLAIMER:** The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Modesto Chamber of Commerce.

## PROGRESS MAGAZINE

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# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

By Cecil Russell, Chamber President and CEO

This month's issue of Progress features "Women in Leadership". We are very fortunate to have many women in leadership roles in our community. We have chosen five to highlight; these ladies come from a broad spectrum of our society. I have had the pleasure to engage with them in many roles. They demonstrate leadership in many forms. Marian Kaanon is recognized for her leadership as the President/CEO of the Community Foundation, Judie Piscitello for work as Executive Director of Stanislaus Partners in Education, Wendy Byrd for her role in the NAACP, Debra Hendricks as Superintendent of Sylvan Unified Schools, and Kate Trompetter for her leadership in consulting, facilitating and as a leadership coach. Please enjoy their stories; they are great role models for our youth. They are very involved in our community and give back to our community with unparalleled passion. I am very proud to know these ladies and for the opportunity to work with them!

We had three Ribbon Cuttings and Business After Hours event in the past month, they were well attended events, thank you to our ambassadors, welcome team, and board members that attended. We continue to feature our restaurants in nearly every issue, our hope is after reading about these businesses, that you will be encouraged to visit them and enjoy their great cuisine.

We have a NEW Membership person, her name is Sabrina Gonzales. She is trained in customer service and possesses very good interpersonal skills. She is looking forward to reaching out to our members to help insure that we are as engaged as possible. Give her a call!

We held our ninth annual Business and Education Event on Friday March 8th, it was well attended and we had a great reaction from the audience. The event was held at Greens on Tenth. The meeting focused on Meeting Business Expectations—from Cradle to Career. We followed up on last year's event with a different panel. Their goal was to share the needs from a business perspective. The panel consisted of Ali Cox, CEO of Ali Cox and Company Marketing, Tamara Thomas, Director of Human Resources, Stanislaus County, Ryan Cook, Senior Director of Talent Acquisition E & J Gallo Winery, Jeff Albritton, Senior Director of Alternative & Vocational Education Modesto City Schools and Dejeune Shelton, Director of Career Services Modesto Junior College. They shared with the audience the attributes that employers seek out when interviewing prospective team members. Our next event is our Ag Aware scheduled for April 11th at MJC Ag Pavilion. Please join us!

We are working with the Mayor of Modesto to host his State of the City Address. We hope to see you at these upcoming events!



ATTENDED CITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING



ATTENDED STANISLAUS GREEN TEAM PRESENTATION



ATTENDED MODESTO CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS



ATTENDED STANISLAUS COUNTY SUPERVISORS MEETINGS



ATTENDED STANISLAUS COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING



ATTENDED MJC BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING



ATTENDED TOURISM TASK FORCE MEETING



ATTENDED SUPERINTENDENT NOGUCHI OF MODESTO CITY SCHOOLS KEY COMMUNICATORS GROUP



ATTENDED SPIE BOARD MEETING



ATTENDED COUNTY TOURISM TASK FORCE MEETING





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# CHAMBER CALENDAR

## APRIL

- 3** **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
Modesto Chamber of Commerce\*\*  
7:30 P.M.
- 4** **RIBBON CUTTING**  
Stifel Investment Services  
9:00 A.M.
- 11** **BUSINESS BEFORE HOURS**  
Gold Star Referrals  
7:30 A.M.
- 11** **AG AWARE LUNCHEON**  
ACE Ag Pavilion\*\*  
11:30 A.M.
- 17** **RIBBON CUTTING**  
Wise Guys PC  
11:00 A.M.
- 18** **STANISLAUS GREEN TEAM - FRITO LAY**  
Modesto Chamber of Commerce\*\*  
12:00 P.M.
- 19** **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE**  
Modesto Chamber of Commerce\*\*  
12:00 P.M.
- 23** **RIBBON CUTTING**  
Burgerim  
10:30 A.M.
- 25** **BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**  
Hawn/CHG Structural w/MoRo Club  
5:30 P.M.

\*\*The Modesto Chamber of Commerce is located at 1114 J St., Modesto  
Please note that calendar events and details are subject to change.  
\*See website for more detail.



## MAY

- 1** **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
Modesto Chamber of Commerce\*\*  
7:30 A.M.
- 8** **STATE OF THE CITY LUNCHEON**  
Double Tree, Grand Ballroom  
11:30 A.M.
- 9** **BUSINESS BEFORE HOURS**  
Riverbank Cannabis Collective  
7:30 A.M.
- 16** **STANISLAUS GREEN TEAM -TBD**  
Modesto Chamber of Commerce\*\*  
9:00A.M.
- 17** **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE**  
Modesto Chamber of Commerce\*\*  
12:00 P.M.
- 23** **BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**  
TBD  
5:30 P.M.
- 27** **MEMORIAL DAY**  
*Office Closed\**

\*\*The Modesto Chamber of Commerce is located at 1114 J St., Modesto





MISSION STATEMENT: The Modesto Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to serving the greater Modesto Area, regional businesses and community prosperity through advocacy, collaboration, access to leaders, economic development, connectivity and business education.

To execute our adopted mission we have developed an acronym that helps keep us focused. That acronym is **"CARES: Community, Advocacy, Relationships, Education and Service."**



At its heart the Modesto Chamber is a community of likeminded business owners who share the vision for enjoying a thriving economy and creating and maintaining our community as a vibrant place to live, work and play. The Modesto Chamber is the go-to resource and facilitator of ideas and communication for nonprofits, governmental agencies, and community leaders. More than just a business club, the Modesto Chamber strives to affect its environment for positive transformation by supporting change agents in the community.



The Chamber serves the education community by hosting the annual State of Business and Education event, by fund-raising for local students at the Ag Aware and Harvest Luncheon annual series, and partnering with local schools and colleges to train and educate young men and women, all in keeping with our pledge to help provide a ready workforce to serve local employers. Additionally, the Chamber educates its members on practical solutions and best practices through its Progress Magazine articles, monthly Chamber University and Seeds of Success speaker series, workshops and seminars, monthly committee meetings, and SCORE counseling.



Chamber Staff, Board of Directors and many of our topical committees, such as Economic Development and Government Relations, are engaged and proactively representing our members by addressing business initiatives, addressing issues in our community and working to relieve the regulatory burdens businesses endure due to local and state governments. The Modesto Chamber gets results, as shown by recent victories in forming more rational ADA legislation, defeating a no-growth measure, electing business friendly candidates, working alongside others to pass Measure L, a local self-help transportation measure, and championing for more water for our agribusiness, industry and citizens. By working together, our members are stronger together than they could ever be on their own.



The Chamber believes in service to the community and to its members. The Chamber Board and staff are active on many nonprofit and government committees, donating their business expertise, time and resources. The Chamber also serves its individual members by hosting ribbon cuttings which introduce a new business to the community, valuable and cost effective (free) marketing opportunities, exposure to social media, workshops and training for our business partners and their associates, and other free and discounted resources.



The Modesto Chamber specializes in building relationships among business and serving as the nexus to businesses, nonprofit organizations, and governmental agencies. We host monthly networking events, annual special events, an annual trade show, and our long-running Gala. Members also may serve on committees or go through the Leadership Modesto program where they will build long-term relationships with key leaders in the business world and

**C** – Community

**A** – Advocacy

**R** – Relationships

**E** – Education

**S** – Service







By: Jennifer Konradi,  
Marketing and Communications

Society has begun redefining leadership and executive roles. Despite what gender stereotypes may tell us, women excel at leadership. They do it every day at home, in their personal lives, and at work. They are not afraid to ask for help when needed and surround themselves with people that can support them. Examples of these leadership patterns are evident within our community.

Leadership under women may look different than leadership under men. Our community understands that “different” is success, progress, and positive. There are countless women in our community that are prime examples of “Women in Leadership”. They have contributed positively and left a mark on those around them as well as the surrounding area.

### Marian Kaanon

Marian Kaanon grew up in Modesto and received her bachelor's degree from UC Davis. She was appointed CEO of Stanislaus Community Foundation in 2012. As an active Rotarian with Modesto Rotary Club and a graduate of the Modesto Chamber's Leadership Modesto program, she has had her hand in making this community the best version of itself. Marian was named by The Modesto Bee in 2006 as one of the area's emerging young leaders, making it onto The Bee's “20 Under 40” list of young professionals to watch. Leadership isn't easy, but it is manageable. Marian, throughout her career, has shown courage and resiliency. Her résumé of accomplishments shows that she was active in seeking out opportunities to be both courageous and resilient.



Marian has recently spearheaded bringing the Irvine New Leadership Network to Modesto and is active in the Chamber. She has acted as the Master of Ceremonies for many of the Chamber's annual events, not without being a crowd favorite. Marian Kannon's laser focus has led to her many accomplishments and her voice has given the op-

portunity for other diverse voices and groups to be able to address local issues. She has fostered to development of new organizations and programs all aimed to the collective goal of improving the quality of life in Stanislaus County and the community, her community will be forever thankful.

### Judie Piscitello

Women in leadership tend to take on projects during their career where they are able to chart the course to a solution and look for larger challenges along their path to leadership. Judie Piscitello is the Executive Director of Stanislaus Partners In Education. She has served in this capacity since 2008; while under her direction SPIE has become the premier organization that brings business leaders and educators together for the common goal of creating a better educated workforce. Education is essential to the growth of economic development and the biggest contributing factor on today's youth's future. Under Judie's leadership, SPIE continuously partners education and the business industry, to work in the spirit of cooperation and mutual respect to develop cultivated members of the workforce community and responsible citizens.



The Education Committee voted unanimously to present Judie Piscitello with the Modesto Chamber's Excellence in Education Award. “This award is given to someone that has worked tirelessly to uphold the value of education,” said presenter, MaryAnn Sanders. Judie has worked in the education field for many years and transformed the SPIE organization into a strong partnership between business and education.

Women have certain innate strengths, such as creativity, collaboration, and communication that make them highly effective in their approach to leadership. Women in certain leadership roles tend to come from a more interactive, and cooperative mind set, which creates a stronger spirit of teamwork among their peers and their community.

### Wendy Byrd

Wendy Byrd has been a community organizer for over 29 years. Her career began in Modesto in 1990 when she conducted a one-year



Youth Study for the Modesto City Council, following a controversial ordinance to ban cruising on McHenry Avenue. The goal of the study was to identify alternatives to cruising. She founded the Leisure Bucks Financial Assistance Program that has been providing financial assistance to low income families and youth sports groups since 1991. She advocated for upgrades to the Maddux Youth Center, after school programs and late-night downtown entertainment for young adults. Wendy identified her unique talents of compassion and leadership, she understood what she could bring to the table, and made sure her voice is heard. Wendy worked as Teen Services Supervisor from 1990 - 2000 for the City of Modesto. She later became Director of Student Development and Campus Life for Modesto Junior College (MJC) 2000-2013. Her greatest accomplishment there was assisting students and the college in the planning, development and financing of the Mary Stuart Rodgers Student Learning Center on the West Campus.



Most notable, she has a long list of community service, social justice and civic engagement accomplishments. She was a graduate of Leadership Modesto in 2005 and a Senior Fellow of the inaugural class of the American Leadership Forum in 2014. Along with taking part in numerous boards and committees, she has been a member of the MLK Planning Committee for over 20 years, helping to bring a long list of distinguished civil rights leaders to Modesto, such as Yolanda King, Julian Bond, Danny Glover, Edward James Olmos, Dolores Huerta, Diane Nash, Dick Gregory, Van Jones and the upcoming, Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, to name a few.

Effective leaders develop a sense of purpose by pursuing goals that align with their personal values and advance the collective good. Wendy's long list of awards and accomplishments is a prime example of this.

Wendy Byrd, along with the women listed in this piece, look beyond the status quo to what is possible and gives them a compelling reason to take action despite personal fears and insecurities every person will undoubtedly feel. Such female leaders are seen as authentic and trustworthy because they are willing to take risks in the service of shared goals. By connecting others to a larger purpose, they inspire commitment, boost resolve, and help colleagues find deeper meaning in their work.

### Debra Hendricks

As a school superintendent Debra Hendricks can tell you what it is like to face difficulties in the midst of acquiring your "dream job". While finding herself as a single mom at the age of 25, she was determined to break the family mold and be the first person in her family to graduate from college.



Before starting her own business as an interior designer, she earned her business degree while working full-time and raising her children. As all leaders do in a sense of a self-challenging task, Debra would still look for the job that would feed her passion; she returned to school to acquire a Liberal Arts degree and an Elementary Teaching Credential.

After years in the classroom, missing the multiple facets of the business world, she returned to school once more to receive a Masters in Administration and an Administrative Credential in a post-secondary setting. She began her administrative career by serving as a Principal for 7 years, before moving into a district level position as an Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. Currently she is ending her sixth year as Sylvan Union School District's Superintendent and the passion for what she does still stands.

Debra notes that her greatest accomplishments are her three grown children, who all have a college degree, and her four grandchildren. Debra is married to Andrew Hendricks who is a Sergeant for the Stockton Police Department; together they have five adult children. Debra is involved in the community, serving on the Cradle to Career Steering Committee, California State University Stanislaus Advisory Board, Brandman Education Advisory Board, Make Dreams Real Advisory Board, and Modesto Flex Rotary Club.

### Kate Trompetter

Before most can move up, the goal is to do something to be noticed. Women often play it safe, try to blend in and not make waves. This would not be true of Kate Trompetter. Kate is an Organizational and Systems Coach. In her practice, she helps people and organizations increase their impact through meaningful, facilitated experiences and coaching. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology at the University of California, Davis and a Master of Public Administration at California State University, Stanislaus. She is also certified as a Community Coach through Leadership That Works. Leadership is in her line of work, and that is visible in all aspects of her career. She worked in the nonprofit sector for over a decade and, in 2018, in an act of, Kate deemed "foolishness (or bravery depending on how you look at it)", she started her own facilitation and coaching practice to increase her impact and experience as much joy as possible.



Kate did not stop dreaming and her leadership mindset is what led her to become an executive director. In her words she "had arrived". Her title as an "Executive Director" is an obvious example of a leadership role, but Kate defines leadership a bit differently.

"Often we think about leadership as being about standing in front of people. Our traditional views on what it means to lead invite us to think of leadership as coming in the form of position or title, formal authority, or the act of getting people to follow you," she said. "The phrase Evolutionary Partnership began to anchor everything for me. For me, Evolutionary Partnership elicits togetherness, strength, curiosity, and play. It's how I commit to being with myself and all those around me."

Making intentional choices about our careers is important for everyone. For women, it includes understanding the organizational and cultural roadblocks and realities that are unique to women in the workplace.

Each woman needs to make time to think about her identity as leader, choose what she wants, and work intentionally to make it happen. As the Modesto community, we are extremely fortunate to have 5 exceptional women who are fierce in leadership and primary examples of those who saw opportunities and challenges and thrived when met face to face with them.





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*Rank Investigations & Protection, Inc.*  
**Chairman**



Eric Tobias  
*F&M Bank*  
**Chairman-Past**



Patricia Gillum  
*Patricia Gillum, CPA.*  
**Vice Chair, Internal Operations**



Brad Blakeley  
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**Director**



Kristin Reza  
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**Director**



Lucy Virgen  
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Michael Howell  
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**Director**



Warren Kirk  
*Doctors Medical Center*  
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*Huff Construction and Ardis Farming*  
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Michael Gaffney  
*PG&E*  
**Director**



David Wright  
*Wright Insurance Company*  
**Director**



Pete Zahos  
*Sysco Central California*  
**Director**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## EMANUEL PROVIDES NECESSARY CARE, RESOURCES TO PATIENTS WITH HEART ATTACK SYMPTOMS

The American College of Cardiology has recognized Emanuel Medical Center for its demonstrated expertise and commitment in treating patients with signs and symptoms of a heart attack. Emanuel Medical Center was awarded Chest Pain Center Accreditation with Primary PCI, based on rigorous onsite evaluation of the staff's ability to evaluate, diagnose and treat patients who may be experiencing a heart attack.



# EMANUEL MEDICAL CENTER

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 730,000 Americans suffer a heart attack each year. The most common symptom of a heart attack for both men and women is chest pain or discomfort. However, women are more likely to have atypical symptoms. Other heart attack symptoms include, but are not limited to, tingling or discomfort in one or both arms, back, shoulder, neck or jaw, shortness of breath, cold sweat, unusual tiredness, heartburn-like feeling, nausea or vomiting, sudden dizziness and fainting.

Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) is also known as coronary angioplasty. It is a non-surgical procedure that opens narrowed or blocked coronary arteries with a balloon to relieve symptoms of heart disease or reduce heart damage during or after a heart attack.

Hospitals that have earned ACC Chest Pain Center with Primary PCI Accreditation have proven exceptional competency in treating patients with heart attack symptoms and have primary PCI available 24/7 every day of the year. As required to meet the criteria of the accreditation designation, they have streamlined their systems from admission to evaluation to diagnosis and treatment all the way through to appropriate post-discharge care and recommendations and assistance in patient lifestyle changes. In addition, they have formal agreements with other facilities that regularly refer heart attack patients to their facility for primary PCI and they work closely with local Emergency Medical Services on processes and treatment protocols.

"Emanuel Medical Center has demonstrated its commitment to providing Turlock and its surrounding communities with excellent heart care," said Phillip D. Levy, MD, FACC, chair of the ACC Accreditation Management Board. "ACC Accreditation Services is proud to award Emanuel with Chest Pain Center with Primary PCI Accreditation."



Hospitals receiving Chest Pain Center with Primary PCI Accreditation from

the ACC must take part in a multi-faceted clinical process that involves: completing a gap analysis; examining variances of care, developing an action plan; a rigorous onsite review; and monitoring for sustained success. Improved methods and strategies of caring for patients include streamlining processes, implementing of guidelines and standards, and adopting best practices in the care of patients experiencing the signs and symptoms of a heart attack. Facilities that achieve accreditation meet or exceed an array of stringent criteria and have organized a team of doctors, nurses, clinicians, and other administrative staff that earnestly support the efforts leading to better patient education and improved patient outcomes.

The ACC offers U.S. and international hospitals like Emanuel access to a comprehensive suite of cardiac accreditation services designed to optimize patient outcomes and improve hospital financial performance. These services are focused on all aspects of cardiac care, including emergency treatment of heart attacks.




### The Marketplace is Constantly Evolving So Should Your Insurance Broker

In an ever-changing marketplace, adaptability can be the key to profitability. If the one size fits all approach to insuring your business isn't working for you, talk to us. We constantly stretch the boundaries of what is possible for our clients, bringing them to new markets, offering self insurance and group captive options. **Call Capax today and find out what we can do for you.**

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MIREYA AGUILAR NAMED 21ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 'WOMAN OF THE YEAR'

Assemblymember Adam C. Gray (D - Merced) has named Ms. Mireya Aguilar of Winton as the Woman of the Year from the 21st Assembly District. She was honored recently during a ceremony at the State Capitol. Assemblymember Gray chose Aguilar for her exceptional track record of volunteerism and community service. In addition to her profession in migrant education with the Merced County Office of Education, Ms. Aguilar holds classes to assist applicants with the citizenship process and with English proficiency. She is also very involved in supporting cultural programs such as the Ballet Folklorico and this year serves as the president of the Nuevo Latino Rotary Club of Winton.

"Mireya's community service through her regular employment is already noteworthy in and of itself," said Gray. "Like a true leader, she has elected to go above and beyond in her volunteer efforts and commitment to service."



Mireya Aguilar was born in 1966 in the city of Cuauhtemoc, Chihuahua, Mexico. She arrived in the United States in 1989 and married her spouse Adolfo Aguilar in 1990. She received a B.A in Agriculture Business in 1989, which was certified through CSU Fresno in 2005. Mireya lives in the community of Winton with her two sons Abraham and Aaron, and daughter Ayerim. Assemblymember Gray also acknowledged Aguilar at the 2019 Latina Women's Luncheon hosted by the Merced County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

"Mireya is an incredible role model for the aspiring young leaders in our community," continued Gray. "I am proud to honor her as the Woman of the Year for my district."

*Assemblymember Adam C. Gray represents the 21st Assembly District which includes all of Merced County and portions of Stanislaus County.*

## CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

Community Hospice Foundation is pleased to host their 18th Annual Gala in celebration of Community Hospice's 40 Year Anniversary. More than 600 local community members will gather at the home of Dr. Wes and Heidi Kinzie for a delightful evening featuring a Silent and Live Auction, raffle, live entertainment, a plated dinner by Greens Events, drinks and dancing.

Several local community members will be recognized for their contributions and dedication to Community Hospice receiving the John and June Rogers Philanthropic Award, Julio R. and Aileen Gallo Leadership Award and Harold A. Peterson, III Heart of Hospice Award.

All event proceeds will benefit the patients, families and programs of Community Hospice.

**WHEN: Saturday, May 18, 2019**

- Cocktails, Hors D'oeuvres Reception and Silent Auction: 5:00 p.m.
- Dinner and Program: 7:00 p.m.
- Live Auction: 8:00 p.m.
- Dancing: 9:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** The home of Dr. Wes and Heidi Kinzie in Modesto.

**WHO:** Community Hospice is the largest and oldest nonprofit hospice agency in the Central Valley. For the past 40 years, Community Hospice has cared for thousands of friends and neighbors offering compassionate and quality care, education and support to patients and families, regardless of ability to pay. Care extends to over 2000 patients each year in private homes, skilled nursing facilities, retirement communities and at the 16-bed inpatient Community Hospice Alexander Cohen Hospice House. Community Hospice also provides grief support services to anyone in the community. For additional information regarding Community Hospice programs and services, visit [hospiceheart.org](http://hospiceheart.org) or call 209.578.6300

**More Info:** For more information regarding this event, visit [give.hospiceheart.org](http://give.hospiceheart.org) or call the Community Hospice Foundation at 209.578.6370.



## READING MONTH OBSERVED AT DOCTORS MEDICAL CENTER

Doctors Medical Center is once again celebrating National Reading Month! Every baby born at DMC this month will receive a "Happy Birthday to You!" book by Dr. Seuss. We hope this will help inspire a love of reading and start a library for these newborns.

In addition - the first 20 babies born in March at Doctors Medical Center will receive a special Dr. Seuss hat, knitted by one of our longtime volunteers, Eleanor Ford. She has been a



volunteer with us for 18 years.

National Reading Month coincides with Read Across America, a nationwide reading celebration that takes place annually on March 2, Dr. Seuss's birthday.

Doctors Medical Center celebrates reading year-round. We have a Pediatric Reading Program for our young patients and we have a Little Free Library located in our main lobby, available to all visitors and community members.

# STANISLAUS GREEN TEAM

**MEETING: APRIL 18, 12:00PM**

The "Stanislaus Green Team" was launched by the Modesto Chamber of Commerce in November of 2012. The purpose was to create a nexus between commerce and environment, and the desire of the Modesto Chamber to work collaboratively, searching for regional solutions to challenges facing Stanislaus County.

Simply put, assisting businesses in "Going Green" will not only reduce their costs of doing business, but it will also help the environment and move the Stanislaus County economy forward.

The "Stanislaus Green Team" meets at the intersection of Environmental Stewardship and lowering the cost of doing business.

If you are interested in speaking at a Stanislaus Green Team meeting, please contact Trish Christensen at [tchristensen@modchamber.org](mailto:tchristensen@modchamber.org)

## SPEAKER INFORMATION:

Daniel O'Brien,  
Maintenance and  
Engineering Director,  
Frito Lay



Dan began his Frito-Lay career in 2011 at the Bakersfield Manufacturing site where he started as a Warehouse operations manager. During his time at the Kern Site, Dan helped to support Baked! Restage project and capital projects to improve the facility. In 2015, Dan relocated to the Modesto Site as the Facilities and Capex Manager and then transitioned in 2017 into the Maintenance and Engineering Director role.



**Join us for our up coming  
Green TEAM Meeting  
Thursday, April 18th, NOON  
(note time change)**

**Our guest speaker will be:**

**Daniel O'Brien**

**Maintenance and Engineering Director**





# Ribbon Cuttings






**Rainbow International Restoration of Modesto**  
212 Campus Way, Modesto, CA




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# PRESIDENT'S CLUB CIRCLE OF INFLUENCE

## DIAMOND LEVEL

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 Bank of the West (Pelandale)  
 Beard Land and Investment Co.  
 Capax-Giddings, Corby, Hynes, Inc.  
 Doctors Behavioral Health Center-DMC  
 Doctors Medical Center-DMC  
 Frito-Lay Co., Inc.  
 Pacific Southwest Container, Inc.  
 Physician Referral Service-DMC

## GOLD LEVEL

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 EMOE, Division of Parker Hannifin Corp.  
 Encompass Health Rehabilitation of Modesto  
 Fiscalini Cheese Company  
 IHeart Media  
 Modesto Irrigation District  
 Modesto Nuts Professional Baseball  
 Sutter Health Valley Area  
 Sysco Central California Inc.  
 Taco Bell (9th)  
 Taco Bell (Kansas)  
 Taco Bell (Oakdale)  
 Taco Bell (Pelandale)  
 Taco Bell (Plaza)  
 Taco Bell (Sisk)  
 Taco Bell (Sisk)  
 Taco Bell (Sisk) Main  
 Taco Bell (Standiford)  
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 American Medical Response  
 Aramark Uniform Services  
 Atherton & Associates, LLP  
 Audi Modesto  
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 Bank of Stockton - Modesto Main Branch  
 Bank of the West (Dale Road)  
 Brightwood College  
 BURGERIM  
 Caliber Collision  
 California State University, Stanislaus  
 Care One Home Health and Hospice, Inc.  
 Central Sanitary Supply Co.  
 Central Valley Automotive

Central Valley Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge  
 Central Valley Nissan  
 Central Valley Specialty Hospital  
 Central Valley Volkswagen Hyundai  
 Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino  
 Clark Pest Control  
 COIT Services Inc.  
 Collins Electrical  
 Comcast  
 Damrell, Nelson, Schrimp, Pallios, Pacher & Silva  
 Del Monte Plant #1  
 Delta Sierra Beverage  
 English Oaks Nursing & Rehabilitation Hospital  
 F&M Bank (Carpenter Road)  
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 Infiniti of Modesto  
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 JS West & Companies  
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 Maxx Value Foods  
 Mercer Foods  
 Mocse Credit Union  
 Modesto Toyota  
 O'Brien's Market  
 Oak Valley Community Bank  
 Pacific Gas & Electric Co.  
 Panelized Structures Inc.  
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 Rogers Jewelry Co.  
 Round Table Pizza #1033  
 Round Table Pizza #1034  
 Round Table Pizza #186  
 Round Table Pizza #701  
 Round Table Pizza, Corporate  
 San Joaquin Valley College  
 Save Mart Supermarkets  
 Save Mart Supermarkets - Corp Office  
 Seven-Up Bottling Co. of Modesto/  
 Varni Brothers Corporation  
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 US Bank Turlock  
 Valley BMW  
 Valley Children's Healthcare  
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 Warden's Office Furniture Outlet  
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Wells Fargo Bank  
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 Yosemite Meat Co., Inc.

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 TO LEARN MORE  
 ABOUT OUR  
 PRESIDENT'S CLUB  
 LEVEL BENEFITS**



## PRESIDENT'S TIER NETWORK CIRCLE OF INFLUENCE EXPERIENCE

The Modesto Chamber of Commerce is proud to host this invitation only event.

**Our Featured Guest will be:  
 Congressman Josh Harder!**

**Thursday, April 18, 2019**

If you are interested in learning how you can become a President's Tier member, you may email [tchristensen@modchamber.org](mailto:tchristensen@modchamber.org), or call **209-577-5757**





# Congratulations

## TO THIS MONTH'S MILESTONE MEMBERSHIPS

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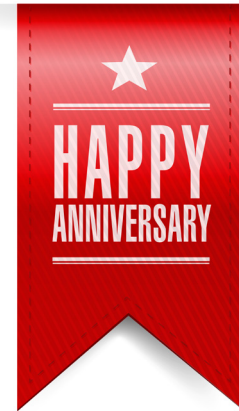
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UNITED CAPITAL FINANCIAL LIFE MANAGEMENT  
BELL-CARTER PACKAGING  
CAL-TRADE WELDING SCHOOL OF MODESTO  
HUMPHREYS UNIVERSITY

*15+ years*

MUSSMAN & MUSSMAN, LLP  
OAK CRAFTS BY JEREMIAH  
HAMPTON INN & SUITES - MODESTO, CA  
VALLEY LEXUS  
DERREL'S MINI STORAGE, INC.  
GALLO CENTER FOR THE ARTS



*10 years*

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## Join us for the 24th Annual AG Aware Luncheon!

Join 600 of Modesto's prominent agricultural and community leaders to raise funds for Modesto's Future Farmers of America programs.

Proceeds from the Ag Aware Luncheon benefit Modesto area FFA chapters who will be the next generation of leaders in the area's most prominent industry.

**Our 2019 speaker is James Garner**  
**Founding Partner, Director of Communications,**  
**Cogent Consulting and Communications, Inc.**

**APRIL 11, 2019**

**Location:** Modesto Junior College  
ACE Pavilion

**Time:** 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

**Tickets:** \$25

For more information and tickets please contact the Chamber

(209) 577-5757 or visit the website:

[www.modchamber.org](http://www.modchamber.org)





## PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

### Community Hospice Announces New Board Member

Community Hospice, the oldest and largest nonprofit hospice provider serving the Central Valley since 1979, is pleased to announce a new board member.

Joining the Community Hospice Board of Directors is Mrs. Virginia Madueno.

"I am pleased to welcome Virginia to our Community Hospice Board and family," said C. DeSha McLeod, Community Hospice President/CEO. "Virginia brings to Community Hospice a wealth of experience building advocacy and awareness on key issues affecting the San Joaquin Valley. We look forward to working together to proactively provide compassionate and quality care, education and support to our community."

Virginia Madueno is the President and CEO of IMAGEN LLC. She is the Vice President of Government Relations for the Sino American Trade Development Association in Beijing China, former council member and Mayor for the City of Riverbank and most recently was a candidate for Congress in the 10th District.

The Community Hospice Board of Directors is comprised of community

volunteers who provide strategic oversight and governance to the organization's mission to provide compassionate care, education and support to terminally ill patients and their families, regardless of ability to pay.

Community Hospice is the largest and oldest nonprofit hospice agency in the Central Valley. Celebrating 40 Years of service, Community Hospice has cared for thousands of friends and neighbors offering compassionate and quality care, education and support to patients and families, regardless of ability to pay. Care extends to over 2000 patients each year in private homes, skilled nursing facilities, retirement communities and at the 16-bed inpatient Community Hospice Alexander Cohen Hospice House. Community Hospice also provides bereavement and grief support to anyone in the community. For more information, call 209.578.6300 or visit [hospiceheart.org](http://hospiceheart.org).



## PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

### Legislators Honored For Commitment To California's Life Sciences Sector

California Life Sciences Association (CLSA), the trade association representing California's life sciences industry, honored three California State Legislators as Life Sciences Champions during its legislative Back to Session Reception and Board Dinner in Sacramento that took place in late February.

Senator Jeff Stone (R-La Quinta), Assemblyman Adam Gray (D-Merced) and Assemblyman Chad Mayes (R-Yucca Valley) were each presented with CLSA's "2018 Life Sciences Champion Award" for their leadership in advancing policies that increase patient access and affordability, and boost R&D in biotechnology, biomedical science, pharmaceutical and medical device innovation in California during the past year.

"Senator Jeff Stone and Assemblymembers Adam Gray and Chad Mayes have demonstrated a commitment to championing policies that spur innovative activity in the life sciences sector, helping lead to a healthier population in California and around the world," said CLSA President & CEO Mike Guerra. "On behalf of California's life sciences sector - a community employing over 311,000 Californians at 3,400 life sciences organizations - we are delighted to recognize these distinguished legislators for their leadership, which has been instrumental in cultivating California's life sciences sector. As the new legislative session gets underway in Sacramento, CLSA looks forward to partnering with the Legislature to advance policies that improve patient health and bring positive change for California patients and their families."

Recipients of CLSA's Life Sciences Champion Award have



demonstrated a fundamental understanding of the importance of California's life sciences innovation ecosystem. Winners are principled defenders of policies to strengthen and promote life sciences investment, innovation and job creation in California.

California Life Sciences Association (CLSA) is the state's largest and most influential life sciences advocacy and business leadership organization. With offices in Sacramento, San Diego, South San Francisco, Los Angeles and Washington DC, CLSA works closely with industry, government, academia and others to shape public policy, improve access to innovative technologies and grow California's life sciences economy. CLSA serves biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical device and diagnostics companies, research universities and institutes, investors and service providers throughout the Golden State. CLSA was founded in 2015 when the Bay Area Bioscience Association (BayBio) and the California Healthcare Institute (CHI) merged. Visit CLSA at [www.califesciences.org](http://www.califesciences.org), and follow them on Twitter @CALifeSciences, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.

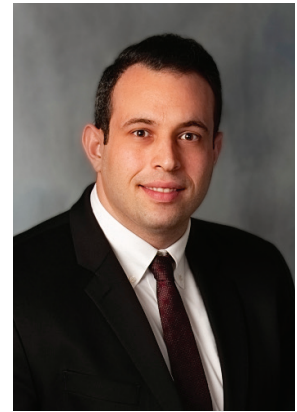
# PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

## Seliger Is Associate Attorney For Brunn & Flynn

Nicholas S. Seliger is an Associate Attorney with Brunn & Flynn. He was born and raised in Turlock, California. Mr. Seliger attended California State University, Stanislaus, where he received his B.A. in Criminal Justice, cum laude, with a Minor in Law Enforcement. Mr. Seliger received his J.D. from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law with a focus in Business Law.

Mr. Seliger is admitted before all California courts and the United States District Courts of California.

Mr. Seliger currently practices in the area of civil litigation, business law, employment law, and trust and estate administration.



# MODESTO CHAMBER AMBASSADOR HIGHLIGHT

## MADHU SINGH

AVP, Community Branch Manager,

Bank of Stockton, Dale Road, Modesto

I am very blessed and proud to be working for a company that has been in existence for almost 152 years and one that really encourages me to go out and represent Bank of Stockton in our beautiful community! I started my career in Fiji at a local bank there and soon after an arranged marriage, migrated to this great country! Needless to say, I continued with my banking career here as well and have managed to accumulate 37 years of retail banking experience under my belt. Here at the Bank of Stockton, we offer a complete array of banking products and services as a full service bank serving through 19 branches in 9 counties. I absolutely love working with my clients in taking care of all their banking needs which include Personal, Small Business, Commercial & Wealth Management products & services.

## Interests:

I have been married for almost 39 years to a wonderful man and together have 3 children and a beautiful granddaughter!

My hobbies include reading, cooking, shopping, travelling and of course spending time with all my very large extended family and friends!

I am also active at my Church as a Deacon and with several Outreach programs there as well as being a member of the Welcome Team at Modesto Chamber.

Please call me at (209) 557-2250 if I can be of any assistance. Thank you.



Business  
AFTER  
Hours

When: Thursday, April 25, 2019  
Where: 231 Magnolia  
Time: 5:30 PM — 7:30 PM

Brad Hawn of **chg** Structural, and his wife Nancy, wanted to invite the Modesto Chamber and MoRo Club into their home for a **joint** networking event.

Please join us for a unique and fun filled After Hours event~

Bring your business cards to be entered in the drawing... and be prepared to network!



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## UPSCALE PAINT AND SIP FOR ALL TO ENJOY

By: Virginia Still

Maybe you are an artist or maybe you are not; it really doesn't matter at Pinot's Palette where guests are invited to paint, sip, and have a really good time. Modesto residents, Jim and Lisa Cook, opened up the painting studio in September 2017 and have been bringing people together and hosting a variety of events ever since.

The studio is open Tuesday through Sunday and closed on Mondays. Every Sunday they offer bottomless mimosas and are only open from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. so that staff has the ability to attend church if they wish. They offer a variety of items to paint including a 16x20 canvas, bottles, glasses, and canvas bags. There are also black light painting sessions and wood pallet paintings. The large 3,000 square foot studio can accommodate 96 people including a private room called the graffiti room where many black light paintings are created.

Pinot's Palette is a franchise that began in Texas and has over 200 studios throughout the United States and one in Canada.

Jim Cook was getting ready to retire so he and Lisa decided to look for a business of their own. A studio opened in Livermore

which was in close proximity to the law firm that Lisa was working at back then. After seeing some of her best friend's daughter's postings of Pinot's Palette her interest grew. So they went to talk to the owner, who is now a good friend of theirs, to get more information which led to an inquiry to Pinot's headquarters.

"I flew out there and I was there with four other couples," explained Lisa. "Jim couldn't go due to work related purposes. Out of everyone I was the only one that was accepted. Because not only are they interviewing you but you are interviewing them; that is when you see the books and everything. Then we bought it four months later."

The studio location was previously a consignment store that had to be renovated to fit the Pinot's standards. Paradigm Construction was hired as their contractor and they turned it around in about a year to the delight of the couple.

"It didn't look like this at all," stated Lisa. "Jim did all the demo and we donated everything to our church so it helped them as well. They added another bathroom, then added another room, they added the bar, the lighting; it was a major build out. I would recommend them (Paradigm) to anyone."

The acrylic paintings that are on the walls have been painted by Lisa and the employees. They have six employees that are all





part time. Jim runs 90 percent of the business and Lisa is a full-time litigation paralegal who teaches painting classes at the studio on occasion.

"I really enjoy being here," said Jim. "I have people that stop in and they love looking at the place. It gives me an opportunity to talk about what we do. I enjoy being here during the day. We have music playing. It is like a party every night."

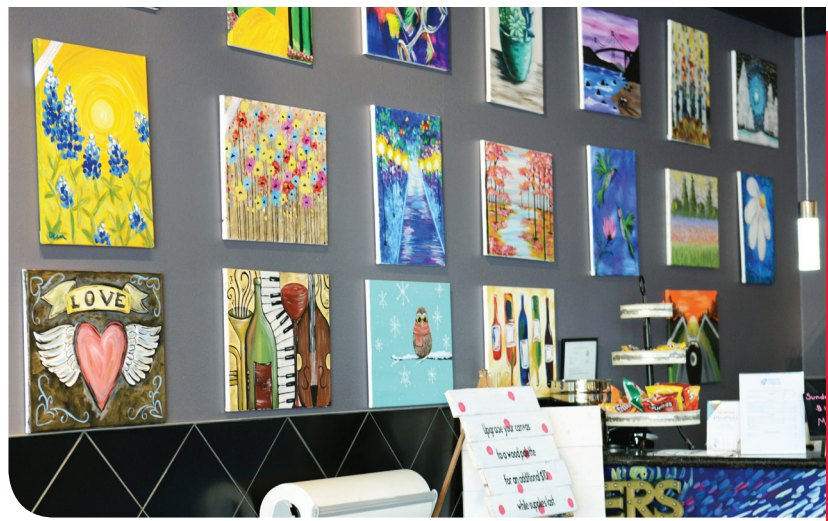
"It is exciting," Lisa stated regarding owning the studio. "We each have our own duties here but he is here all the time. He does everything. I do the scheduling and purchasing all the supplies."

Lisa has had a love for art since she was a youngster, after her father put her and her siblings in art class where they got lessons for about six years.

"I was the only one out of all four to really enjoy it," added Lisa. "If my father was still alive he would be here every day. He loved art."

The studio is for those 21 and older but they do kids art classes the second Saturday of each month at Hobby Lobby on McHenry. They do mobile paint parties as well which can be for kids or adults. Everyone must have an ID and they will be carded at the studio itself since there is alcohol served. The menu has a variety of beverages like La Marca Sparkling Wine Splits, Wycliff Champagne, white wines, red wines, and beer. There are also non-alcoholic drinks including bottled water, soda, and coffee. People are allowed to bring in outside food but they do not allow outside beverages. They do have snacks for those that gain an appetite during the session.

They have a calendar online so interested people can select a particular painting at the studio. The instructors take guests through each painting step by step so there is no need to be an artist or have any painting skills other than perhaps a little



creativity and the willingness to explore your artistic side. The couple explained that there are many people that participate that have never painted before so they don't want guests to be intimidated or worried because they will have a good time and they are not entering a contest.

Guests can purchase tickets online, by phone or walk-in.

Some of the highlights Lisa shared for her is when she stands back and observes the session and views how happy the people are when they are there painting. For Jim one of the most rewarding parts about owning the business is the charity events that are hosted there which they named "Painting it Forward."

"Ninety-nine percent of people come here in a good mood and it is fun to just watch them paint and have fun with their friends," added Lisa. "Some people come here and paint by themselves and they have made new friends."



"Since we opened, we probably have donated back to the community over \$20,000," stated Jim. "To me that is what I am most proud of. We have done fundraisers for several groups. Some come back more than once."

Jim and Lisa expressed that they were the fastest franchise in the state of California to move from signing the lease to opening their doors. They had a checklist that they followed and made sure everything was checked twice.

"We were prepared before we got into this," stated Jim. "We went into it with eyes wide open."

"It is a lot harder than I thought it was going to be," added Lisa about owning a business. "Think it through and don't hesitate to get advice from other business owners. If it is a franchise call another franchisee and find out what the pluses and minuses are."

Although Jim retired and Lisa has a full time job, owning Pinot's Palette has been a lot of work but more so a ton of fun, they agreed, that makes it not feel like work at all.







**Business  
BEFORE  
Hours**



**Business  
AFTER  
Hours**

These networking events are opportunities for members to invite all Chamber members to their businesses to mingle, build relationships, and connect outside of the normal work day. They are perfect environments to showcase your office, products, and/or services, and to share your individual "business story". If you happen to be a based from home business, you are always welcome to host your event at the Chamber Conference room.

- ◆ **Business Before Hours** are traditionally held on the second Thursday of each month from 7:30 to 8:30am.
- ◆ **Business After Hours** are typically held on the fourth Thursday of each month from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

**\*\*For more information on becoming a host in 2019, please call Trish Christensen 209-577-5757 ext. 106, or email at [TChristensen@ModChamber.org](mailto:TChristensen@ModChamber.org)**



## Returning April 9th!

### Maximize the Value of Chamber Membership

Chamber U is designed to inform and educate members in an array of areas that will help them grow and strengthen their business. Examples of topics that could be offered are sexual harassment training, sales development, workplace regulations, and employee engagement. Topics may also focus on personal skill development such as leadership skills, goal setting, time management, and public speaking. Many of these courses will be offered by member partners that specialize in these various areas.

### Get Ready To Make It Happen in 2019!

This highly interactive workshop is brought to you in partnership with Dale Carnegie Training. Learn about the three most critical skills needed to enjoy personal and professional success.

- Attitude
- Communications
- Goal Setting

Paul Bagan, Dale Carnegie Instructor, uses audience participation and his own experiences to drive home the message Make it Happen in 2019!

Our attitude is the key to our success. How we handle ourselves, our business and others is often due to our past experiences with our "Inner-Critic" or "Inner-Champion". Putting our "Inner-Critic" voice on a starvation diet is critical to Making Success Happen!

We lead others through example; not through acting out or firefighting. Learn the nine ways to creating enthusiasm, drive, and commitment in yourself and others.

- Date:** TUESDAY, April 9, 2019
- Time:** 12 Noon to 1:15 PM
- Location:** Modesto Chamber of Commerce
- Facilitator:** Paul Bagan
- Details:** Drinks provided, bring your own lunch




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# ECONOMIC FORECASTERS PREDICT STRONG 2019 CALIFORNIA GROWTH

The California economy should maintain strong growth through 2019 despite an uncertain political environment and financial market volatility, according to the latest projection from the Center for Business and Policy Research at the University of the Pacific in Stockton. California's record low unemployment rate is projected to stabilize at 4.0 percent through 2020 before gradually increasing. California's rate of economic growth is forecast to grow at a 2.9 percent rate for the next 12 months, and fall below 2 percent by 2021 as recession risks grow.

The regional outlook projects Sacramento to lead Northern California in job growth in 2019 after lagging slightly behind the rapid growth seen in the Bay Area, Stockton, and Modesto/Merced in recent years. Sacramento's government and healthcare based economy should sustain, if not accelerate, growth in 2019 as most other Central Valley areas gradually slow with the broader California economy. Forecasters also project San Francisco and San Jose to sustain over 2 percent job growth in 2019 despite the region's housing constraints and unemployment averaging below 2.5 percent. This is partially due to increased commuting from inland areas, but also because skilled-workers are displacing others from the Bay Area's housing stock which allows the region's skilled workforce to grow significantly faster than population growth.

In addition to the detailed economic forecast for California and eight Northern California metropolitan areas, the forecast discusses Governor Newsom's agenda including his recent announcement to downsize the costly and controversial megaprojects championed by Governor Brown: California high-speed rail and the Delta water conveyance tunnels. The full forecast can be downloaded from the Center's website at [Pacific.edu/CBPR](http://Pacific.edu/CBPR).

The Center for Business and Policy Research at the University of the Pacific was founded in 2004 and was known as the Business Forecasting Center until March 2015. The Center is a joint program of the Eberhardt School of Business and the McGeorge School of Law programs in public policy and has offices at the

Sacramento and Stockton campuses. The Center produces economic forecasts of California and eight metropolitan areas in Northern and Central California, in depth studies of regional economic and policy issues, and conducts custom studies for public and private sector clients. For more information, visit [Pacific.edu/CBPR](http://Pacific.edu/CBPR).

Some highlights of the report can be found below.

Growing consumer spending at restaurants has fueled rapid growth in the Leisure and Hospitality sector. This sector has added up to 75,000 jobs in recent years, but projections are for just 10,000 to 15,000

new jobs in each of the next few years as rising labor costs and low labor availability drives change in the hospitality sector.

State and local government employment experienced solid 2 percent employment growth from 2014 to 2017 as public budgets, especially in education, recovered. However, state and local government hiring will drop below 1 percent for the next several years in spite of revenue growth as these entities grapple with slower revenue growth and rising pension costs.

Construction jobs have been growing rapidly in recent years as the hard hit sector continues to recover. Expect a slight slowdown in construction job growth in 2019, about 30,000 new jobs compared to as much as 50,000 in recent years. Job growth is limited by worker availability and little expansion to residential construction in 2019.

Single family housing starts are projected at 66,000 in 2019, about the same as 2018. Multi-family production is also projected to be flat in 2019 between 45,000 and 50,000 new units. After 2019, expect total new housing starts to gradually grow another 10 percent and stabilize at just over 125,000 total new single and multi-family units per year.

California's population growth is projected at about 0.5 percent for the next several years, at or near a record low growth rate. California's population is still on track to reach 40 million this year prior to the 2020 census, and should add about 200,000 new residents per year.

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# COMMUNITY HOSPICE: ONE OF CENTRAL VALLEY'S 'BEST PLACES TO WORK'

Community Hospice, the oldest and largest nonprofit hospice provider in the Central Valley, was recognized on March 19, 2019 at the Riverbank Industrial Center and named alongside five other organizations as one of the Best Places to Work in the Central Valley.

Best Places to Work: Central Valley is in its third year of program participation and expects even more growth for the 2020 program, which will begin in October.



"The organizations selected for this designation are leaders in their field without exception," said David White, Chief Executive Officer of Opportunity Stanislaus. "Their cultures and emphasis on employee satisfaction are evident in their employee response and evidence shows prospective employees will look favorably on these rankings as they search for their next position."

"Community Hospice is honored to have been named as one of the Best Places to Work in the Central Valley for the third year in a

row," said C. DeSha McLeod, President/CEO of Community Hospice. "Our employees drive our mission and are true assets to our organization and the community at large. It is vital that we encourage a safe and healthy work environment where our employees can flourish and thrive. It is our amazing staff that allows Community Hospice to provide compassionate and quality care to our friends and neighbors in their time of need. It is our dedication to our patients, families and to one another that make Community Hospice one of the Best Places to Work."



All companies that participated in the 2018 Best Places to Work: Central Valley program receive an in-depth evaluation identifying strengths and weaknesses according to their employees. In turn, this report can be used in developing or enhancing employee retention and recruitment programs.

Best Places to Work: Central Valley is brought to you by Opportunity Stanislaus, Prime Shine Car Wash, and the Modesto Chamber of Commerce. For more information on Best Places to Work: Central Valley visit <http://bestplacestoworkcentralvalley.com/>.



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# LEADERSHIP MODESTO

## LeMo Class Participates In Local Government Day 2019

By: Randy Clark

I'm from the government and I'm here to help you. True or false? True, as our Leadership Modesto class found out, based on scintillating conversations with City and County leaders during Government Day in March. Our venue for the day was Tenth Street Place where both City and County government offices are located. This is one-stop shopping at its finest. As Modesto City Manager Joe Lopez and Stanislaus County CEO Jody Hayes told us, it's great to share office space on the 6th Floor of Tenth Street Place since we are communicating daily, working collaboratively to provide services to the 525,000 citizens that inhabit our local communities.



Both Joe and Jody cited efforts that recently culminated with a plan for providing shelter for the homeless as an example of the two entities working together to tackle a very difficult problem. Their hope is this will be the first step to get us off the bottom rung of the ladder of the continuum of care with Focus on Prevention. If you CARE and have a HEART, you will eventually reach a Turning Point of no return.

We started our day in Chambers with an introduction to some of the inner workings of City and County governments presented by Patrick Cavanah, County Communications Officer, and Deputy City Manager, Caluha Barnes. They also briefed our group on the Brown Act and how it impacts local governance, particularly for members of our City Council and Board of Supervisors. Even if onerous in its application, the Brown Act helps provide openness and transparency that is critical to a democratic society.

Our discussion with political consultant Mike Lynch and Board

of Supervisors Chairman Terry Withrow certainly provided transparency into their lives in the public eye. Terry's opening statement, "politics is not fun", said it all for hopeful public service candidates. Although rewarding, they both reminded us that you need to have broad shoulders as you attempt to build relationships and alliances with all sectors of the community. Sometimes your victories are "bittersweet" since the long hours away from family and friends can take its toll.

Ruben Imperial, County Deputy Executive Officer, was his usual brilliant self as he spoke about Focus on Prevention and recent development with the homeless issues. In addition, he challenged the group to support the County's efforts during the upcoming 2020 Census Count since population determines House of Representative positions nationwide. The Valley needs a strong voice and we need to protect our Congressional District to the best of our ability.



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Patrice Dietrich and Brenda Kiely gave a terrific video presentation on the County's budget. Did you know it is approaching \$1.4 billion with 4500 employees providing services within twenty-nine County departments!? It was interesting to learn that each department is given priority areas to concentrate on while supporting the County's mission statement.

One of the most fun parts of the day had to be the budget exercise with City employees Steve Christensen and Wilson Chalabi, dressed up as Stars Wars characters. Are we under attack Chewy?




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Our assignment was to cut \$9 million from next year's budget. It seems Parks, Rec and Neighborhoods were the biggest losers.

Finally, we ended the day with a panel discussion involving Supervisor Vito Chiesa, Mayor Ted Brandvold and City Council members Doug Ridenour and Jenny Kenoyer. Again, our public servants were very forthcoming in their remarks. Discussion topics included the homeless issue (of course), pension obligations and use of Measure L, the 1/2 cent Transportation Sales Tax. But it was the cannabis issue that drew the most attention. Street vendors seem to be outperforming new, legal shops. Clearly a smoking gun for both City and County leaders to deal with. Stay tuned!

Special thanks go out to Tera Chumley from the County's Chief Executive Office and MPD Officer Chris Adams for being our official hosts and spending their day with us. It was an exhilarating experience.



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# RIDE FOR MOM FAMILY CYCLING EVENT RETURNS FOR EIGHTH YEAR

Hundreds of cyclists will gather on Saturday, May 11th for the Ride for Mom® (RFM) family and charity cycling celebration. The eighth annual event brings together cycling enthusiasts for a fun day promoting healthy lifestyles while raising funds for several local non-profit agencies. The event features 10, 35, and 77 mile rides with fully supported rest stops, SAG and lunch.

Ride for Mom founder, Robert Fores, shares, "Last year we surpassed our number of participants from previous years with almost 500 cyclists participating." He adds, "In addition to providing a memorable day of cycling, since our inception we have raised over \$70,000 for local non-profits that also focus on improving the health of the community."

Ride for Mom was created as a tribute to Robert Fores' mother who passed away from cancer. He says, "every year we host this event the day before Mother's Day to honor my mother and all those others that have been afflicted with this terrible disease."

With the purpose to encourage "Be Active, Eat Healthy And Live Better," RFM has grown into a community event that unites and inspires others to embrace this philosophy.

Doctors Medical Center (DMC) will once again be the presenting sponsor. DMC supports educational and human service projects and is focused on improving the health of the community through



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the pursuit of wellness. Fores says, "Their support is crucial in our continued effort to elevate the viability of the event and is deeply appreciated because with their help, we have raised a significant amount of money."

Ride for Mom, Inc. is an all-volunteer effort and is organized as a California non-profit corporation with IRS 501(c)(3) status. A dedicated team of passionate individuals organizes this large-scale annual celebration.

For more information regarding participating or volunteering, as well as sponsoring or donating, visit [www.rideformom.com](http://www.rideformom.com), [www.facebook.com/rideformom](https://www.facebook.com/rideformom), or e-mail Ride for Mom at [info@rideformom.com](mailto:info@rideformom.com).



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# DR. AMANDA CREWS MEMORIAL 32ND ANNUAL RUN FOR HEALTH



*Proceeds benefit the Stanislaus Health Foundation*  
One Mile, 5K, and 10K Run - Walkers Welcome for One  
Mile and 5K

**Register online at:** Active.com  
(type *Dr. Amanda Crews* in search)  
East La Loma Park, 2001 Edgebrook Dr., Modesto

**Saturday, May 11, 2019**

8:30 am (1 mile) & 9:00 am (5K & 10K)

**Registration:**

1 mile: 7:00 am – 7:45 am  
5K & 10K: 7:00 am - 8:45 am

**Entry Fee:**

\$30.00 By April 26, 2019  
\$35.00 Thereafter  
\$10.00 Kids 18 & Under

Awards to top finishers & post-race raffle prizes  
(raffle tickets available for purchase on race day)

**Free T-Shirts while supplies last!**  
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## STATE OF THE CITY LUNCHEON

**Location:** DoubleTree Hotel, Grand Ballroom

**Date:** May 8, 2019

**Time:** 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

**Anticipated Attendance:** 400

**Individual Tickets:** \$40

**There is no fee to attend solely to hear the address.**

Please note, you must still register as a "Speech Only" guest.

**Audience Profile:** Business owners and executives,  
top government leaders, business professionals, com-  
munity and civic leaders.



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The Modesto Chamber of Commerce is proud to host Mayor Ted Brandvold for the State of the City Address. This sellout event provides an opportunity for Modesto business leaders to hear firsthand the Mayor's plans for the upcoming year. The luncheon will conclude with audience questions, putting the public in direct touch with local government.



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